UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/237,828	01/27/1999	JOHN S. HENDRICKS	02688.00008	7008

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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2176	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/237,828	HENDRICKS ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Michael K. Botts	2176

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>16 June 2006</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1,19-25,30-44,46-55 and 80-112</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1, 19-25, 30-44, 46-55, and 80-112</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This document is a Non-Final Office Action. This action is responsive to the following communications: The Continuing Examination Application, which was filed on June 16, 2006.

2.   Applicants' attention is directed to the fact that a new examiner has been assigned to this case. The Examiner's name and telephone number are provided below.

3.   Claims 1, 19-25, 30-44, 46-55, and 80-112, have been examined, with claims 1, 30,80, 86, 92, 93, 95, 98, 99, 103, 109, and 111 being the independent claims.

4.   Claims 1, 19-25, 30-44, 46-55, and 80-112 are rejected.

The Specification

5.   Applicant is required to update the status (pending, allowed, etc.) of all parent priority applications in the first line of the specification. The status of all citations of U.S. filed applications in the specification should also be updated where appropriate.

6.   The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2.   **Claims 1, 19-25, 30-34, 46-50, 80, 81, 85, 91 and 102 are rejected under 35**

U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeRose et al. (hereinafter "DeRose"), US

5,557,722.

Independent claim 1, as amended, reads as follows:

An electronic book system, comprising:

an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital

data that represent information; and

links between the components of the digital data, wherein when the links

are activated, a first component is connected to a second component, wherein

the second component is a links menu to a plurality of additional components.

Regarding independent claim 1, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the

electronic book including components of digital data that represent information in fig. 3,

5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose also teaches links

between the components of the digital data, wherein the links are activated, a first

component is connected to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col.

3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose calls the components elements. The elements are

arranged in a tree structure may link to none, one, or a plurality of other elements. The

elements may be both text or non-text objects.

DeRose also teaches the second component as a links menu to a plurality of

additional components in fig. 12-14, in windows identified as "table of contents" and

"lookup Window."

DeRose does not explicitly show that the link between two components is a two

way link. DeRose does teach a cross-reference link in fig. 3. It would have been

obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have

modified DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious to

have used the teaching of the cross-reference link from DeRose to have created a two

way link between two components of the electronic book so that the user would have

easily and directly traversed the book from one component to the other and vice versa.

Regarding dependent claim 19, DeRose teaches a help menu, wherein the

help menu provides instructions for using the menu system in fig. 13. DeRose teaches

displaying types of links including text and non-text objects in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the

abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not explicitly show a links

menu which shows the types of links that may be selected. It would have been obvious

to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified

DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used a menu to show available link types for a selected location to a user so that the links would have been easily seen and easily selectable by the user.

Regarding dependent claim 20, DeRose teaches wherein each component on a page of the electronic book may have one or more links to another component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24.

Regarding dependent claim 21, DeRose teaches displaying types of links including text and non-text objects for a selected page in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose teaches highlighting selecting link types in col. 22 line 58 – col. 23 line 15. DeRose does not explicitly show a links menu which shows the types of links that may be selected. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used a menu to show available link types for a selected location to a user so that the links would have been easily seen and easily selectable by the user.

Regarding dependent claim 22, DeRose teaches wherein linked components are highlights by displaying the linked components in a first color different from a second color for remaining information in col. 22 line 58 – col. 23 line 15.

Regarding dependent claim 23, DeRose teaches wherein linked components

are displayed in a font different from a font used to display the page in col. 22 line 58 –

col. 23 line 15.

Regarding dependent claim 24, DeRose teaches wherein linked components

are highlighted by displaying the linked components in one of a bold typeface, an italics

typeface, and underlined in col. 22 line 58 – col. 23 line 15.

Regarding dependent claim 25, DeRose teaches wherein a desired link is

activated by selecting a desired highlighted component using a cursor and operating a

select button in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24.

Independent claim 30, as amended, reads as follows:

A method for linking electronic files to electronic books, comprising:

identifying a first selectable text element in a first electronic book;

associating a first electronic file with the first selectable text element,

wherein the associating step creates a first electronic link;

repeating the identifying and associating steps, the repeated steps

creating electronic links;

activating the first electronic link by selecting the first selectable text

element, the activating step causing the first electronic file to be displayed; and

> *providing a menu, wherein the menu includes a show links menu, and*
>
> *wherein the show links menu displays all available electronic links associated*
>
> *with a selected selectable text element in the first electronic link.*

Regarding independent claim 30, DeRose teaches identifying a first location in a first electronic book, associating a first electronic file with the first location, wherein the associating step creates a first electronic link, and repeating the identifying and associating steps, the repeated steps creating electronic links in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose calls the components elements. The elements selectively linked to none, one, or a plurality of other elements to form a tree structure. The elements may be both text or non-text objects. When the elements have all been properly linked, the electronic book is complete. DeRose teaches activating the first electronic link by selecting the first location, the activating step causing the first electronic file to be displayed in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. A user of the completed electronic book may activate links from each component to display subsequent component electronic files. DeRose teaches selectable text elements in fig. 12, in window "text view" in the highlighted words "shoes."

DeRose teaches providing all the links associated with a selected location in the first electronic link in fig. 12-14. DeRose does not explicitly teach that the links are selected through use of a menu. DeRose teaches the use of menus is familiar to those skilled in the art in col. 5 lines 59-67. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill

in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified DeRose to have created

the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used a menu

to show available links for a selected location to a user so that the links would have

been easily seen and easily selectable by the user.

Regarding dependent claim 31, DeRose teaches a data processing system for

generating a representation of an electronic book document in fig. 1-3, 5, 12-14, the

abstract, col. 7 line 15 – col. 8 line 5, and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. The data

processing system is the same as the claimed electronic book unit, which is a

specialized system for displaying electronic books.

Regarding dependent claim 32, DeRose teaches a memory that stores the

electronic books and selected electronic files, a display that displays the electronic

books and the electronic files, a control unit adapted to receive commands from a user,

and a controller that controls operation of the electronic book unit and activation of the

electronic links in fig. 1-2 and col. 7 line 15 – col. 8 line 5.

Regarding dependent claim 33, as amended, DeRose teaches a location in an

index of an electronic book, and wherein activation of the first link displays a page of the

first electronic book associated with the location in the index in fig. 12-14. A link

selected from index displays the page associated with the link.

Regarding dependent claim 34, as amended, DeRose teaches a location in a table of contents of the electronic book, and wherein activation of the first link displays a page of the first electronic book associated with the location in the index in fig. 12-14. A link selected from table of contents displays the page associated with the link.

Regarding dependent claim 46, DeRose teaches wherein a desired electronic link is selected from displayed available links for a selected location in fig. 12-14.

Regarding dependent claim 47, as amended, DeRose teaches a selectable look-up feature which displays available electronic link types for a displayed page in the electronic book, and wherein when a desired electronic link type if selected, all available electronic links corresponding to the desired electronic link type are display on the page in fig. 12-14.

Regarding dependent claim 48, DeRose teaches wherein a selected electronic file is displayed in an overlay on a page of the first electronic link having the selected first location in fig. 12-14.

Regarding dependent claim 49, as amended, DeRose teaches wherein a selected electronic file is displayed in a window to accompany the window of the first electronic link having a select first location. The windows can be displayed side by side.

Regarding dependent claim 50, as amended, DeRose teaches wherein the

activating step comprises operating a pointing device and a cursor to highlight the first

location and operating a select button to select the first location in fig. 12-14.

Regarding independent claim 80, DeRose teaches displaying a portion of the

an electronic book including a plurality of selection options in fig. 12-14, col. 3 line 51 –

col. 4 line 31, col. 4 line 56 – col. 5 line 36, and col. 15 line 37 – col. 16 line 28. DeRose

teaches a table of contents and in response to a selection of a link from the table of

contents, retrieving additional content associated with the selected link and providing

the additional content to the user in fig. 12-14, col. 3 line 51 – col. 4 line 31, col. 4 line

56 – col. 5 line 36, and col. 15 line 37 – col. 16 line 28.

DeRose teaches providing all the links associated with a selected location in the

first electronic link in fig. 12-14. DeRose does not explicitly teach that the links are

selected through use of a menu. DeRose teaches the use of menus is familiar to those

skilled in the art in col. 5 lines 59-67. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill

in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified DeRose to have created

the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used a menu

to show available links for a selected location to a user so that the links would have

been easily seen and easily selectable by the user.

Regarding dependent claim 81, DeRose teaches providing additional content that is internal to the electronic book in fig. 12-14, col. 3 line 51 – col. 4 line 31, col. 4 line 56 – col. 5 line 36, and col. 15 line 37 – col. 16 line 28.

Regarding dependent claim 85, DeRose teaches providing additional content that is text content in fig. 12-14, col. 3 line 51 – col. 4 line 31, col. 4 line 56 – col. 5 line 36, and col. 15 line 37 – col. 16 line 28.

Regarding **dependent claim 91**, DeRose teaches links between the components of the digital data, wherein the links are activated, a first component is connected to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose teaches a third component in fig. 12-14, which is related to the information of the first component in that they all deal with bicycles and bicycle maintenance.

Regarding **independent claim 92**, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose also teaches links between the components of the digital data, wherein the links are activated, a first component is connected to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose calls the components elements. The elements are arranged in a tree structure may link to none, one, or a plurality of other elements. The elements may be both text or non-text objects.

DeRose also teaches the second component as a links menu to a plurality of additional components in fig. 12-14, in windows identified as "table of contents" and "lookup Window."

DeRose also teaches a second component at an data repository, in fig. 22, wherein a ling from text through the Web may link to "Annotations Public & Private."

Regarding **independent claim 93**, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose also teaches links between the components of the digital data, wherein the links are activated, a first component is connected to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose calls the components elements. The elements are arranged in a tree structure may link to none, one, or a plurality of other elements. The elements may be both text or non-text objects.

DeRose also teaches the second component as a links menu to a plurality of additional components in fig. 12-14, in windows identified as "table of contents" and "lookup Window."

DeRose also teaches a second component at an data repository, in fig. 22, wherein a ling from text through the Web may link to "Annotations Public & Private."

Regarding **dependent claim 94**, DeRose teaches, in fig. 22, that the network is the "web," which is the Internet.

Regarding **independent claim 95**, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the

electronic book including components of digital data that represent information in fig. 3,

5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose also teaches links

between the components of the digital data, wherein the links are activated, a first

component is connected to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col.

3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose calls the components elements. The elements are

arranged in a tree structure may link to none, one, or a plurality of other elements. The

elements may be both text or non-text objects.

DeRose also teaches the second component as a links menu to a plurality of

additional components in fig. 12-14, in windows identified as "table of contents" and

"lookup Window."

DeRose also teaches a second component at an data repository, in fig. 22,

wherein a ling from text through the Web may link to "Annotations Public & Private."

DeRose does not expressly teach that the connection to data repository includes

a list of available books related to the first component, wherein at least one of the books

may be ordered for delivery. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the

art at the time of the invention to include "related books" within the teachings of

annotations of the book, for the obvious reason that related books are relevant

annotations. Further, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time of the invention to have offered at least one of the related books for sale, for the

obvious beneficial commercial purpose that a user who is consulting one electronic

book may be interested in purchasing related books for the purpose of furthering or enriching the original investigation.

Regarding **dependent claim 96**, DeRose teaches an external mass storage device and use of an X Window system teaching a network, in col. 7, lines 15-50, but does not expressly use of a telecommunications medium. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include telecommunications media within the network taught by DeRose, for the obvious and beneficial purpose of using a wider network or accessing greater external memory storage.

Regarding **dependent claim 97**, DeRose teaches an external mass storage device and use of an X Window system teaching a network, in col. 7, lines 15-50, but does not expressly use of a telecommunications medium. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include telecommunications media within the network taught by DeRose, for the obvious and beneficial purpose of using a wider network or accessing greater external memory storage. The use of any prior art telecommunication network would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, as all were useful communications networks, distinguished only be speed of transfer or availability.

Regarding **independent claim 98**, DeRose teaches an external mass storage

device and use of an X Window system teaching a network, in col. 7, lines 15-50, but

does not expressly use of a telecommunications medium. It would have been obvious

to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include

telecommunications media within the network taught by DeRose, for the obvious and

beneficial purpose of using a wider network or accessing greater external memory

storage. The use of any prior art telecommunication network would have been obvious

to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, as all were useful

communications networks, distinguished only be speed of transfer or availability. The

limitation of the network site including an address of one or more new groups related to

the first component is read as non-functional descriptive material. The identify of what

is listed in an address at the network is non-functional to the invention, as claimed.

Regarding **independent claim 99**, DeRose teaches an external mass storage

device and use of an X Window system teaching a network, in col. 7, lines 15-50, but

does not expressly use of a telecommunications medium. It would have been obvious

to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include

telecommunications media within the network taught by DeRose, for the obvious and

beneficial purpose of using a wider network or accessing greater external memory

storage for storage and transmission of an electronic book.

Regarding **dependent claim 100**, DeRose teaches the invention of 99, but does not expressly teach that the transmissions of the links are purchasable separately from the electronic book. The timing of the purchase of the links and the electronic book are read as non-functional descriptive material, irrelevant to the operation of the invention specified in claim 99. Further, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art who wanted to sell the links to make them purchasable separately from the electronic book, for the obvious and beneficial purpose to generate the sale of the links in addition to the sale of the book.

Regarding **dependent claim 101**, DeRose teaches the invention of 99, but does not expressly teach that the transmissions of the links are separate. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to transmit links separately, in that links are generally transmitted separately from each other, even if differentiated by the smallest amount of transmission time.

Regarding **dependent claim 102**, DeRose teaches the invention of claim 1, but does not expressly teach wherein the second component is located at a location where electronic books are orderable and purchasable. This limitation is read as non-functional descriptive material, irrelevant to the claim as specified in that the second link is stated to appear on the GUI page connected to the first link. The location of the electronic books is irrelevant to the interface that activates the second connection.

Regarding **independent claim 103**, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose also teaches links between the components of the digital data, wherein the links are activated, a first component is connected to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose calls the components elements. The elements are arranged in a tree structure may link to none, one, or a plurality of other elements. The elements may be both text or non-text objects.

DeRose also teaches the second component as a links menu to a plurality of additional components in fig. 12-14, in windows identified as "table of contents" and "lookup Window."

DeRose teaches links between the components of the digital data, wherein the links are activated, a first component is connected to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose teaches a third component in fig. 22 as the "Annotations Public & Private."

Regarding **dependent claim 104**, DeRose teaches the fist component linked to the first component in fig. 22.

Regarding **dependent claim 105**, the location of the second component as being

in a data center is read as non-functional descriptive material because it is irrelevant

where the data resides as long as it is accessible from the user interface.

Regarding **dependent claim 106**, the location of the second component as being

in a data center is read as non-functional descriptive material because it is irrelevant

where the data resides as long as it is accessible from the user interface.

Regarding **dependent claim 107**, DeRose teaches, in fig. 22, that the network is

the "web," which is the Internet.

Regarding **dependent claim 108**, DeRose teaches an external mass storage

device and use of an X Window system teaching a network, in col. 7, lines 15-50, but

does not expressly use of a telecommunications medium. It would have been obvious

to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include

telecommunications media within the network taught by DeRose, for the obvious and

beneficial purpose of using a wider network or accessing greater external memory

storage. The use of any prior art telecommunication network would have been obvious

to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, as all were useful

communications networks, distinguished only be speed of transfer or availability. The

limitation of the network site including an address of one or more new groups related to

the first component is read as non-functional descriptive material. The identify of what

is listed in an address at the network is non-functional to the invention, as claimed.

Regarding **independent claim 109**, claim 109 incorporates substantially similar subject

matter as claimed in claim 95 and is rejected along the same rationale.

Regarding **dependent claim 110**, claim 110 incorporates substantially similar subject

matter as claimed in claim 95 and is rejected along the same rationale.

Regarding **independent claim 111**, claim 111 incorporates substantially similar subject

matter as claimed in claim 1 and, in further view of the following is rejected along the

same rationale. DeRose teaches an external facility in a network, in col. 7, lines 15-50,

but does not expressly teach wherein links linking the first and second components are

refreshed by data provided by an external facility. It would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention when using an external facility to

refresh the data provided by an external facility in that the external data would have

been provided by that external facility, and for the obvious and beneficial purpose of

keeping the information displayed to a user fresh and current.

Regarding **dependent claim 112**, DeRose teaches, in fig. 22, that the network is

the "web," which is the Internet.

3.   **Claims 35-38 and 43-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being**

unpatentable over DeRose et al. (hereinafter "DeRose"), US 5,557,722 in view of

Reed et al. (hereinafter "Reed"), US 5,241,671 filed 10/26/1989.

Regarding dependent claims 35, DeRose teaches linking first and second

components together in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24.

DeRose does not teach wherein a word or phrase is located in a first electronic book

and wherein the electronic file is in a location in a dictionary that defines the word or the

phrase. Reed does teach wherein a word or phrase is located in a first electronic book

and wherein the electronic file is in a location in a dictionary that defines the word or the

phrase in col. 14 lines 22-53.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have combined Reed into DeRose to have created the claimed

invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have linked a component in one

book to a component in another book to receive additional benefit from the second book

that the first book would not have provided to the user. This is evident Reed where the

dictionary assists the user in learning the definition of a word which he or she is not

familiar with.

Regarding dependent claim 36, DeRose teaches linking first and second

components together in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24.

DeRose does not teach wherein when the first link is activated, the audio unit provides an audio presentation giving a pronunciation of the word or the phrase. Reed does teach wherein when the first link is activated, the audio unit provides an audio presentation giving a pronunciation of the word or the phrase in col. 13 lines 57-62.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Reed into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used the audio presentation of Reed to have improved DeRose so that the user would have had an ability to learn how words in the electronic book are pronounced.

Regarding dependent claims 37 and 38, DeRose teaches linking first and second components together in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not teach wherein the electronic file is displayed in a foreign language or wherein the electronic book includes a foreign language selection feature, and wherein the electronic book unit activates a selected foreign language dictionary based on an input from the foreign language selection feature. Reed teaches linking a file to a dictionary to increase the user's understanding of the file in col. 14 lines 22-53.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Reed into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have provided a selection of foreign dictionaries to help a user translate a linked foreign file so that the user could completely understand the text of the electronic book.

Regarding dependent claim 43, DeRose teaches linking a first component to an electronic file in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not teach wherein the first component is located in a first electronic book and wherein the electronic file is located in a second electronic book. Reed does teach wherein the first component is located in a first electronic book and wherein the electronic file is located in a second electronic book in col. 14 lines 22-53.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Reed into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have linked a component in one book to an electronic file in another book to receive additional benefit from the second book that the first book would not have provided to the user. This is evident Reed where the dictionary assists the user in learning the definition of a word which he or she is not familiar with.

Regarding dependent claim 44, DeRose teaches a data processing system for generating a representation of an electronic book document in fig. 1-3, 5, 12-14, the abstract, col. 7 line 15 – col. 8 line 5, and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. The data processing system is the same as the claimed electronic book unit, which is a specialized system for displaying electronic books.

4.   Claims 39-42, 51-52, 82-84, and 86-90 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeRose et al. (hereinafter "DeRose"), US 5,557,722 in view of Bernstein et al. (hereinafter "Bernstein"), US 5,204,947 filed 10/31/1990. .

Regarding dependent claim 39, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not explicitly teach that the second component is located in a database on a telecommunications network. Bernstein does teach linking a first component to a second component located in a database in fig. 3-4 and col. 8 lines 17-66. Bernstein teaches that the database may be in on a telecommunications network in col. 6 line 63 – col. 7 line 1.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Bernstein into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used the ability of Bernstein to link a component to a second component in a database on a telecommunications network so that the second component would have been easily changed, modified, or updated.

Regarding dependent claim 40, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-

14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not teach wherein the telecommunications medium includes one of a plain old telephone system, a cable television system, a wireless telephone system, a digital satellite television system, a fiber optic system, an ethernet, and a wireless television system. Bernstein does teach wherein the telecommunications medium includes one of a plain old telephone system, a cable television system, a wireless telephone system, a digital satellite television system, a fiber optic system, an ethernet, and a wireless television system in col. 6 line 63 – col. 7 line 1.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Bernstein into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious to use an ethernet for the telecommunications medium so that the electronic file would have been transmitted efficiently to the user.

Regarding dependent claim 41, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not explicitly teach that the second component is located in a database located at an Internet web site. Bernstein does teach linking a first component to a second component located in a database wherein the database is located at an Internet web site in col. 6 line 63 – col. 7 line 1.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Bernstein into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used the ability of Bernstein to link a component to a second component in a database located at an Internet web site so that the second component would have been easily changed, modified, or updated.

Regarding dependent claim 42, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not explicitly teach that the second component is located in a database located at an Internet web site. Bernstein does teach linking a first component to an Internet web site in col. 6 line 63 – col. 7 line 1.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Bernstein into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used the ability of Bernstein to link a component to an Internet web site so that related information would have been maintained at the web site and would have been easily changed, modified, or updated.

Regarding dependent claim 51, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose teaches that the components may be non-text objects, but does not explicitly teach that the second component is an audio presentation. Bernstein does teach that the second component is an audio presentation in fig. 3-4 and col. 8 lines 17-66.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the audio presentation linking of Bernstein to have enhanced the non-text object linking of DeRose so that the user would have gained additional experience and entertainment compared to merely reading text.

Regarding dependent claim 52, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose teaches that the components may be non-text objects, but does not explicitly teach that the second component is an video presentation. Bernstein does teach that the second component is an video presentation in fig. 3-4 and col. 8 lines 17-66.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the video presentation linking of Bernstein to

have enhanced the non-text object linking of DeRose so that the user would have

gained additional experience and entertainment compared to merely reading text.

Regarding dependent claim 82, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the

electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and

linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-

14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not explicitly teach that

the second component additional content that is external to the electronic book.

Bernstein does teach linking a first component to a second component containing

additional content that is external to the first component in col. 6 line 63 – col. 7 line 1.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have combined Bernstein into DeRose to have created the

claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used the ability of

Bernstein to link a component to a second external component so that the second

component would have been easily changed, modified, or updated.

Regarding dependent claim 83, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the

electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and

linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-

14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose teaches that the

components may be non-text objects, but does not explicitly teach that the second

component is an audio presentation. Bernstein does teach that the second component

is audio content in fig. 3-4 and col. 8 lines 17-66.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have combined the audio presentation linking of Bernstein to

have enhanced the non-text object linking of DeRose so that the user would have

gained additional experience and entertainment compared to merely reading text.

Regarding dependent claim 84, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the

electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and

linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-

14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose teaches that the

components may be non-text objects, but does not explicitly teach that the second

component is an video presentation. Bernstein does teach that the second component

is audio-video content in fig. 3-4 and col. 8 lines 17-66.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have combined the video presentation linking of Bernstein to

have enhanced the non-text object linking of DeRose so that the user would have

gained additional experience and entertainment compared to merely reading text.

Regarding independent claim 86, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the

electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and

linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-

14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose teaches that the

components may be non-text objects. DeRose teaches receiving a selection of content

associated with an electronic book from a user and receiving a selection of additional

content from the user in fig. 12-14, col. 3 line 51 – col. 4 line 31, col. 4 line 56 – col. 5

line 36, and col. 15 line 37 – col. 16 line 28. DeRose does not teach in response to a

request from the user, creating a link between the selected content associated with the

electronic book and the selected additional content.

Bernstein does teach in response to a request from a user, creating a link

between a selected content associated with an electronic book and selected additional

content in fig. 3-4, 10, and 14-15, and col. 5 lines 10-46. It would have been obvious to

one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the

teachings of Bernstein and DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would

have been obvious and desirable to have enabled to DeRose to have allowed user to

have created new links between content objects in accordance with the linking services

set forth by Bernstein in col. 5 lines 10-46.

Regarding dependent claim 87, DeRose teaches a table of contents containing

links to other content components from the current content component in fig. 12-14, col.

3 line 51 – col. 4 line 31, col. 4 line 56 – col. 5 line 36, and col. 15 line 37 – col. 16 line

28. DeRose does not teach inserting a created link into a links menu. Bernstein does

teach creating a new link from one content item to another and inserting it into a links

menu in fig. 3-4, 9-15, 26, col. 5 lines 10-46, and col. 21 lines 25-56. It would have

been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to

have combined the teaching of Bernstein and DeRose to have created the claimed

invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used the link creation and

insertion teachings of Bernstein to have enhanced the electronic book of DeRose and

have enabled the electronic book to have offered linking services as taught by Bernstein

in col. 5 lines 10-46.

Regarding dependent claim 88, DeRose teaches a link from a one component

of an electronic book to a second component of the electronic book in fig. 12-14, col. 3

line 51 – col. 4 line 31, col. 4 line 56 – col. 5 line 36, and col. 15 line 37 – col. 16 line 28.

DeRose does not teach in response to a request from the user, creating a link between

the selected content associated with the electronic book and the selected additional

content.

Bernstein does teach in response to a request from a user, creating a link

between a selected content associated with an electronic book and selected additional

content wherein the created link provides access from the selected additional content to

the selected content associated with the electronic book in fig. 3-4, 10, and 14-15, and

col. 5 lines 10-46. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made to have combined the teachings of Bernstein and DeRose

to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to

have enabled to DeRose to have allowed user to have created new links between

content objects in accordance with the linking services set forth by Bernstein in col. 5

lines 10-46.

Regarding dependent claim 89, DeRose teaches a link from a one component

of an electronic book to a second component of the electronic book in fig. 12-14, col. 3

line 51 – col. 4 line 31, col. 4 line 56 – col. 5 line 36, and col. 15 line 37 – col. 16 line 28.

DeRose does not teach in response to a request from the user, creating a link between

the selected content associated with the electronic book and the selected additional

content.

Bernstein does teach in response to a request from a user, creating a link

between a selected content associated with an electronic book and selected additional

content wherein the created link provides access from the selected additional content to

the selected content associated with the electronic book in fig. 3-4, 10, and 14-15, and

col. 5 lines 10-46. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made to have combined the teachings of Bernstein and DeRose

to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to

have enabled to DeRose to have allowed user to have created new links between

content objects in accordance with the linking services set forth by Bernstein in col. 5

lines 10-46.

Regarding dependent claim 90, DeRose does not explicitly show that the link

between two components is a two way link. DeRose does teach a cross-reference link

in fig. 3. Bernstein shows a two-way link between two components in fig. 4. It would

have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made

to have combined the teachings of Bernstein and DeRose to have created the claimed

invention. It would have been obvious to have used the teaching of a two-way link

taught by Bernstein to have modified the links of DeRose into two-way links between

components of the electronic book so that the user would have easily and directly

traversed the book from one component to the other and vice versa as is taught by

Bernstein's two-way link.

5.   **Claims 53-55 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable**

over DeRose et al. (hereinafter "DeRose"), US 5,557,722 in view of Saigh, US

5,734,891 continuation of application filed 11/4/1991.

Regarding dependent claims 53-55, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the

electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and

linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-

14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not teach linking to

location where electronic book products can be ordered and purchased. Saigh does

teach linking an electronic book to a location where electronic book products can be

ordered and purchased in fig. 8, the abstract, and col. 11 line 15 – col. 12 line 38.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have combined Saigh into DeRose to have created the claimed

invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used the electronic book product purchasing ability of Saigh to have improved the linking of DeRose so that the link would have enabled the user to purchases additional electronic books related to the current book the user was reading.

7.   It is noted that any citations to specific, pages, columns, lines, or figures in the prior art references and any interpretation of the references should not be considered to be limiting in any way. A reference is relevant for all it contains and may be relied upon for all that it would have reasonably suggested to one having ordinary skill in the art. See, MPEP 2123.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael K. Botts whose telephone number is 571-272-5533. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8:00-4:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon can be reached on 571-272-4136. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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MKB/mkb

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PRIMARY EXAMINER